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WISCONSIN

Migratory Bird Regulations



*1998 Waterfowl Stamp design
by Les Didier, Brookfield*

This year's state waterfowl stamp features snow geese. The waterfowl stamps you purchase assist with the development and maintenance of wetland habitats that benefit waterfowl. Your support is crucial. Thanks.

Support Ethical Responsible Hunting
Report Violations
Call 1-800-Tip-WDNR
(1-800-847-9367)

Toll Free • Statewide • 24-Hour • Confidential
(This is not an information number)

WDNR prints 260,000 copies of this pamphlet at a cost of 5 cents per copy.

PUBL-WM-010 98 REV

Dear Wisconsin Waterfowl Hunter:

Another year has gone by and fast approaching is that time we all look forward to. Time to get the decoys and the camouflage out and satisfy that dog who has been patiently waiting for those waterfowl hunts.

This year Wisconsin has implemented the National Migratory Game Bird "Harvest Information Program" (HIP). Registration is simple and will only take a few extra minutes of your time. After registration you may be chosen to participate in a survey regarding your daily hunting and harvest activity. The information that is gained from those surveys will provide more precise information to allow wildlife biologists to better manage our great migratory game bird resources.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has again offered a Youth Waterfowl Hunt, a one day event that will be held Saturday, September 19. We were also offered geese in the bag limit. Most of you have told us that this is a great opportunity for our future waterfowl hunters and that adding a Canada goose would only enhance the experience.

Wisconsin's estimated duck breeding population this past spring was 427,500, a 12% increase from 1997. This will be the 2nd year in a row that we can enjoy a 60-day season. The length of the duck season is dependent on water conditions in the prairies of the U.S. and Canada. History tells us that these conditions only last a few years and then many of the prairie ponds begin to dry out. This means that in the near future, we will be returning to shorter duck seasons.

We heard many comments that Wisconsin hunters did not have a great duck season in 1997 and we can only suggest that for more opportunities, scout out a different area and try a new marsh or field.

The spring population estimate for the Mississippi Valley Population of Canada geese declined 40% compared to last year and was 50% below the population objective of 900,000. Biologists throughout the Mississippi Flyway

agreed that conservative hunting seasons were needed this year to help build the migrant flock back towards the spring population goal.

The second major population of Canada geese that contributes to our harvest are giant Canada geese. They are doing great with an average annual increase of 10% since we started surveying the population in 1986.

Overall, you will be seeing thousands of geese this fall, both migrants and giants. It will be hard to imagine that the population of migrants has declined so much. However, reducing the quotas and restricting the number of days you could hunt was the only alternative we had.

Have a safe and enjoyable waterfowl season! And remember, take a youth waterfowl hunting on September 19th.

*Jon R. Bergquist, CWB
Migratory Game
Bird Ecologist*

*Brenda Hill
Assistant Migratory
Game Bird Ecologist*

Migratory Game Bird Harvest Information Program (HIP) mandatory in Wisconsin in 1998

Anyone hunting migratory game birds [ducks, geese, woodcock, snipe, rails, gallinules (moorehens) or coots] in Wisconsin will be required to first obtain HIP registration. When purchasing your license, you will be asked if you intend to hunt migratory game birds. If you answer "yes," you will be asked to provide your name, address, and the number of migratory birds you harvested last year.

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) will randomly select a sample of hunters each year and ask them to participate in a survey by maintaining a small hunting diary and sending the diary to USFWS at the end of the season. The information will help USFWS and DNR better estimate harvest and manage our migratory game bird resources.

1998 Youth Waterfowl Hunting Season - September 19

Who is Eligible? Only persons age 12-15 may hunt waterfowl (ducks, geese, coots, gallinules and mergansers). All hunters must be accompanied by an adult chaperone age 18 years or older. The adult may not accompany more than two youth hunters. The adult may not hunt ducks, however, an adult may hunt geese if the date concurs with a regular goose season date. (See pages 17-25.)

What type of licenses are needed?

Successful completion of a Wisconsin Hunter Education Course and HIP registration is required. All license and stamp requirements are waived for eligible waterfowl hunters on this day except the Canada goose hunting permit.

What other rules apply? All other regulations listed in this pamphlet will apply. Hunting hours begin 30 minutes before sunrise and the bag limit is the same as during the regular season, listed on pages 14, 15, 22, 24 and 25.

Does this youth hunt include goose hunting?

Yes. For those wishing to take a Canada goose, a Canada goose permit for that zone is required. In the Horicon and Collins zones, a youth holding a valid permit for any time period may take one (1) Canada goose on the September 19th youth hunt day. He/she must tag the Canada goose as outlined on pg. 19, using his/her regular season tag. Youth holding the Exterior Zone Canada goose permit may take one (1) Canada goose in that zone on the youth hunt day. Validation of the permit and reporting are required as outlined on page 22.

About the Cover

Les Didier was the 1998 winner of the state Waterfowl Stamp Contest with this painting of snow geese. The contest is an annual event open to Wisconsin artists beginning in mid-May. Details may be obtained by writing DNR, Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707.

Always remember the Three Rules of Firearm Safety

1. Treat every gun as if it were loaded.
2. Always point the muzzle in a safe direction.
3. Be sure of your target and beyond.

DNR Service Centers

Office hours are 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday

South Central Region

Madison	608-275-3266
Dodgeville	608-935-3368
Horicon	920-387-7860

Southeast Region

Milwaukee	414-263-8500
Pike Lake Forest	414-670-3400
Kettle Moraine State Forest South Unit	414-594-6200
Plymouth	920-892-8756
Sturtevant	414-884-2300

Northeast Region

Green Bay	920-492-5800
Oshkosh	920-424-3050
Peshtigo	715-582-5000
Sturgeon Bay	920-746-2860

West Central Region

Eau Claire	715-839-3700
Baldwin	715-684-2914
Black River Falls	715-284-1400
La Crosse	608-785-9000
Wausau	715-359-4522
Wisconsin Rapids	715-421-7800

Northern Region

Antigo	715-627-4317
Cumberland	715-822-3590
Park Falls	715-762-3204
Rhineland	715-365-8900
Spooner	715-635-2101
Woodruff	715-356-5211
Superior	715-392-7988
Ladysmith	715-532-3911

General Mailing Address and Phone Number:

Department of Natural Resources

Box 7921,

Madison, Wisconsin 53707

Phone: 608-266-2621

This publication is available in braille, audio cassette, large print or computer format upon request. To order, call (608) 267-7473.

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What's New in '98

- ★ Wisconsin will be taking part in the National Migratory Game Bird Harvest Information Program (HIP) to determine the number of hunters and harvest levels of migratory game birds. When purchasing your license, if you intend to hunt migratory game birds (ducks, geese, woodcock, coots, rails, snipe or gallinule) ask for your free HIP form. You must complete the form and mail it to the DNR before you hunt any migratory game birds in Wisconsin. **All migratory game bird hunters are required to participate in this new program.**
- ★ U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service has proposed that non-toxic shot will be required for all shotgun hunting with shotshell, except wild turkey, on all federally owned Waterfowl Production Areas (WPA). See pg. 12 for details.
- ★ Hunters are reminded that the blind restrictions for goose hunting in the Horicon Intensive Management subzone during the regular goose season is still in effect. This requirement does not apply during the early September season.
- ★ Season dates for Canada goose hunting in the Exterior Zone and its subzones are changed for 1998. See pages 23 and 25 for details.
- ★ The application deadline for Canada goose hunting permits for the Collins and Horicon Zones will be August 20 in 1999.
- ★ Exterior Zone hunters must report harvested Canada geese by calling 1-800-99-GOOSE (1-800-994-6673).

- ★ A special youth waterfowl season will be held on September 19th. Only persons age 12-15 may participate if accompanied by an adult age 18 or older. See pg. 4 for more information.
- ★ Hunters should report the numbers found on a migratory bird leg bands by calling 1-800-327- BAND (1-800-327-2263). Reporting these band numbers is critical to the management of migratory waterfowl! Please use the telephone system (see pg. 30 for more information).

License Information

See page 4 for youth waterfowl hunt license exceptions on September 19.

- **License requirement.** A valid hunting license is required to hunt all migratory game birds in Wisconsin.
- **Age related regulations**
 1. **Persons born on or after January 1, 1973, must have a hunter education certificate to purchase any hunting license.**
 2. **Persons 12 and 13 years old** must be accompanied by a parent or adult guardian while hunting.
 3. **Persons younger than 12 years old** may not hunt or purchase a hunting license.
 4. **Persons 12 years old and over** must have hunting licenses except Wisconsin hunter education graduates using a hunter education certificate during the period it is valid as a small game license.
 5. **Persons 16 years old and older** must purchase the state and federal waterfowl stamps.

Note: First time Wisconsin Hunter Education Course graduates may use their hunter safety card in place of a small game license and state waterfowl stamp.

- **License/permit/tag use:** It is illegal to allow someone else to use *or carry* your license, permit, tag or stamp, or for you to use *or carry* some other person's license, permit, tag or stamp.
- **Resident Licenses:** Small Game—\$14.00; Junior Small Game (residents age 12-17)—\$8.00; Senior Citizen Small Game—\$7.00; Sports—\$43.00; Conservation Patron—\$110.00 (includes a State Waterfowl Stamp, but excludes a Federal Migratory Bird Stamp).
- **Nonresident Licenses:** Small game—\$75.00; Five-day small game—\$43.00.

- **Senior Citizen Recreation Card:** (existing cards are still valid as long as the holder remains a Wisconsin resident): Card holders must purchase the Federal Migratory Bird Stamp annually; a State Waterfowl Stamp is not required. Card holders must be HIP registered annually (see below).
 - **Wisconsin Waterfowl Stamp** (\$7.00): Available at selected DNR offices, county clerks and their agents.
 - **Federal Migratory Bird Stamp** (\$15.00): Available at U.S. Post Offices, some U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service offices, and select DNR offices.
 - **Canada goose permit:** (\$3.00 application fee) Required by everyone hunting Canada geese in Wisconsin. This permit is valid for only one zone as shown on the permit.
 - **HIP Registration:** (FREE) Required by everyone hunting any species of migratory game birds in Wisconsin.
-

State and Federal Duck Stamps

Any person 16 years of age or older may hunt wild ducks, geese and brant provided such person possesses: (1) A 1998 State Waterfowl Stamp affixed to the person's valid hunting license with the signature of the license holder written in ink across the face of the stamp (see above for exceptions). (2) A 1998 Federal Migratory Bird Stamp with the signature of the license holder written in ink across the face of the stamp.

Note: A person who has not reached the age of 16 years is not required to have either stamp. In addition, no one is required to have either stamp to hunt coot, gallinule, snipe, rails or woodcock.

State and Federal Migratory Game Bird Restrictions

Migratory game birds include ducks, geese, brant, rails, coots, gallinules, woodcock and snipe. The restrictions which apply include all those listed in the general hunting regulations (separate pamphlet) plus the following:

The following rules are both State (S) and Federal (F) unless specifically noted.

- **Dual violation:** Violation of state migratory bird regulations is also a violation of federal regulations.

- **Caution:** More restrictive regulations may apply to National Wildlife Refuges open to public hunting. For additional information on federal regulations, contact U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Federal Building, Fort Snelling, Twin Cities, MN 55111. Telephone: (612) 725-3530. See page 12 for special non-toxic shot requirements. It is the hunter's responsibility to know what rules apply.

While pursuing migratory game birds, it is illegal to:

- **Hours:** Hunt before or after established hunting hours (pages 31-32).
- **Closed season:** Take migratory game birds during the closed season.
- **Daily bag limits:** Take or attempt to take, in any one day, more than one daily bag limit. **Group bagging for migratory game birds is not permitted.**
- **Field possession limit:** Possess more than one daily bag limit while at or between the place killed and the person's temporary or permanent abode.

Methods

1. Open Water (S)

“Open water” means any water beyond a natural growth of vegetation rooted to the bottom and extending above the water surface of such height as to offer whole or partial concealment to the hunter. Dead stumps and dead trees in the water do not constitute a natural growth of vegetation.

- **Open Water Hunting:** No person may hunt waterfowl in open water from any blind which may include any boat, canoe, raft, contrivance, or similar device except from:
 1. **Mississippi River:** Blinds in any of the waters of the Mississippi River and adjoining counties provided the blinds are securely anchored and located not more than 100 feet from any shoreline including islands. Blinds in open water in Grant County and the Lake Pepin portions of the Mississippi River are permitted regardless of the distance from shore provided the blinds are securely anchored.
 2. **Big Green Lake and Great Lakes area:** Blinds in open waters of Big Green Lake in Green Lake County, Lake Superior, Lake Michigan, and Green Bay if beyond 500 feet of any lake or bay shoreline. Blinds do not have to be anchored in these areas.

3. **Lake Winnebago and Petenwell Flowage:** Blinds in open waters of Lake Winnebago and Petenwell flowage (north of state highway 21 and south of state highway 73) if located more than 1,000 feet from any shoreline, including islands, provided blinds are securely anchored.
-

Note: You may hunt in any open water area provided you are standing on the bottom without the aid of a blind. Blinds mean any securely anchored boat, canoe, raft or similar device. All open water blinds shall be removed at the close of hunting hours each day.

- **Jump Shooting:** The open water restrictions are not intended to prohibit legal jump shooting activities. It is legal to hunt by boat in streams. However, on larger bodies of water, the hunter must keep a portion of the boat in natural vegetation. Skirting the edge of rivers and lakes in this manner is considered legal.
-

2. Structures, Boats and Vehicles

While pursuing migratory game birds, it is illegal to:

- **Structures (S):** Hunt from any pier, dam, dock, breakwater or similar artificial structure. Class A disabled hunting permit holders are exempt.
- **Sink box:** Hunt from a sink box (a low floating device, having a depression affording the hunter a means of concealment beneath the surface of the water).
- **Waterfowl blind (S):** Establish a waterfowl blind on state property, including the bed of any navigable lake, prior to 7 days before the waterfowl season or leave it established beyond 7 days after the close of the waterfowl season. Any blind left on state property during the season must permanently bear the name (in lettering one-inch square or larger) of the person who constructed the blind.
- **Moving boats:** Hunt from any *moving* boat *not* in open water unless it is propelled by paddle, oars or pole. Motorboats and sailboats must have their motors completely shut off and/or the sail furled, and its progress therefrom has ceased.
- **Vehicle use:** Take migratory game birds from, or with the aid or use of, any vehicle except by qualified disabled persons under DNR permit. Federal rules prohibit taking migratory game birds from any motor vehicle, except paraplegics and persons missing one or both legs.

3. Devices

While pursuing migratory game birds, it is illegal to:

- **Decoys:** Hunt with decoys which are:
 - 1. Placed beyond 200 feet from the cover in which the hunter is located **(S)**.
 - 2. Placed in the water prior to one hour before the opening of waterfowl hunting time **(S)**.
 - 3. Left in the water more than 20 minutes after the close of waterfowl hunting time **(S)**.
 - 4. Left in the water unattended. *Note: You may leave decoys unattended on dry land (S).*
 - 5. Live, regardless of distance from the hunter. **(S)**.

All live, tame, or captive ducks and geese shall be removed for a period of 10 consecutive days prior to hunting, and confined within an enclosure which substantially reduces the audibility of their calls and totally conceals such birds from the sight of migratory waterfowl.

- **Bird calls:** Use records or tapes of migratory bird calls or sounds or electronically amplified imitations of bird calls.
- **Baiting:** Hunt on or over a baited area or by the aid of baiting (placing feed such as corn, wheat or other grain, salt or other feed to constitute a lure, attraction or enticement). An area is considered baited for 10 days after the complete removal of the bait; it is not necessary for the hunter to know an area is baited to be in violation. Unharvested standing crops are not considered bait. It is legal to hunt in fields where grain is present solely as the result of normal agricultural planting or harvesting.
- **Hazing:** Use in any manner any air, water, or motor-driven land conveyance for the purposes of concentrating, driving, rallying, or stirring up any migratory game bird to put them in the range of hunters.

4. Guns and Ammunition

While pursuing migratory game birds, it is illegal to:

- **Shotguns:** Hunt with anything other than a shotgun fired from the shoulder, bow and arrow, or by falconry. Persons possessing Class A disabled or crossbow hunting permits may use a crossbow. Taking with a trap, snare, net, rifle, pistol, swivel gun, shotgun larger than 10 gauge, punt gun, battery gun, machine gun, fishhook, poison, drug, explosive, or stupefying substance is illegal.

- **Shotgun capacity:** Hunt with a shotgun capable of holding more than three shells, unless it is plugged with a one-piece filler which is incapable of removal without disassembling the gun.
- **Shot type:** Hunt with any type of lead or other toxic shot when hunting waterfowl, coots and gallinules. Any shot used must be nontoxic (defined below). This means muzzleloaders must also use nontoxic shot. Only nontoxic sizes BB, BBB, T, or smaller are legal. Size F shot is illegal in Wisconsin. In addition, no person may possess any shotshell loaded with shot material other than nontoxic shot when hunting waterfowl, coots or gallinules. *Note: Except as listed below, lead shot may be used to hunt woodcock, snipe and upland game species. All "Shotgun Capacity" rules apply when hunting woodcock and snipe (see above).*

Only non-toxic shot may be possessed or used for hunting upland game species on the Horicon and Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife Refuges, except that lead shot may be used for wild turkey hunting on the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife Refuge and on federally owned Waterfowl Production Areas.

Nontoxic shot currently approved for use:

- a. Steel shot.
- b. Steel shot with coatings of <1% total mass of either copper, nickel, zinc chromate, or zinc chloride.
- c. Bismuth-tin in a mixture of 97-3%, respectively.

Note: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) is considering classifying 1) tungsten-iron and 2) tungsten-polymer as nontoxic shot. However, as of the publication date of this pamphlet, the USFWS has not yet notified the DNR of a final decision. **IF** either shot is designated as nontoxic by the USFWS, it is also considered nontoxic by the DNR. Please check with the USFWS or your local DNR Service Center before you attempt to use these shot types.

- **Weapons transport (S):** Carry in or on a motor-driven boat while the motor is running, any firearm or bow unless such firearm is unloaded or such bow is unstrung or enclosed within a carrying case.

Possession Restrictions

- **Retrieval:** No person may kill or cripple any game bird

without making every reasonable effort to retrieve such bird. This should be done without delay when necessary to prevent loss of the bird. A hunter who cripples a bird which falls or moves into open water may immediately pursue the bird into open water and shoot from a boat propelled by paddle, oars or pole. A shotgun may be uncased but may not be loaded while the motor is running.

- **Tagging:** No person may give, put, or leave any migratory game birds at any place or in the custody of another person unless the birds are tagged by the hunter with the following information:
 1. The hunter's signature.
 2. The hunter's address.
 3. The total number of birds involved, by species.
 4. The dates such birds were killed.

No person or business may receive or have in custody any migratory game birds belonging to another person unless such birds are properly tagged and a record of such receipt is kept by the business.

- **Possession of live birds:** Wounded birds reduced to possession shall be immediately killed and included in the daily bag limit.
- **Importation:** For information regarding the importation of migratory game birds killed in another country, hunters should consult 50 CFR 20.61 through 20.66 (a copy can be obtained from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service address shown under "Caution" on page 9).
- **Shipment:** No person may ship migratory game birds unless the package is marked on the outside with the:
 1. Name and address of the person sending the birds.
 2. Name and address of the person to whom the birds are being sent.
 3. Number of birds, by species, contained in the package.
- **Transportation:** Migratory gamebirds may be field dressed before they are transported from the field. However, the head or one fully feathered wing must remain attached to all migratory game birds being (1) transported from the field *to* the person's permanent abode *and* (2) between a hunting cabin, camp, motel or other temporary abode *to* the permanent abode.



Northern Zone 1998 Migratory Game Bird Seasons

(See detailed map p. 16)

Normal shooting hours (page 31) apply except on October 3 when hunting begins at noon.

All Wild Ducks	Oct. 3 at 12:00 noon through December 1	Daily bag limit: 6 ducks to include not more than 4 mallards of which only 1 may be a hen, 1 black duck, 1 pintail, 1 canvasback, 2 redheads, and 2 wood ducks. Possession limit: The possession limit is double the daily bag limit.	
	Season Length	Daily Bag Limit	Possession Limit
Mergansers	Same as wild ducks; Daily bag may not include more than 1 hooded merganser.	5	10
Coot and Gallinule	Same as wild ducks.	5	10
Sora and Virginia Rails	Same as wild ducks.	25	25
Snipe	Same as wild ducks.	8	16
Woodcock	September 19 through November 2.	3	6

Falconry hunters see page 29 for season dates and bag limits.

Falconry hunters see page 29 for season dates and bag limits.



Southern Zone

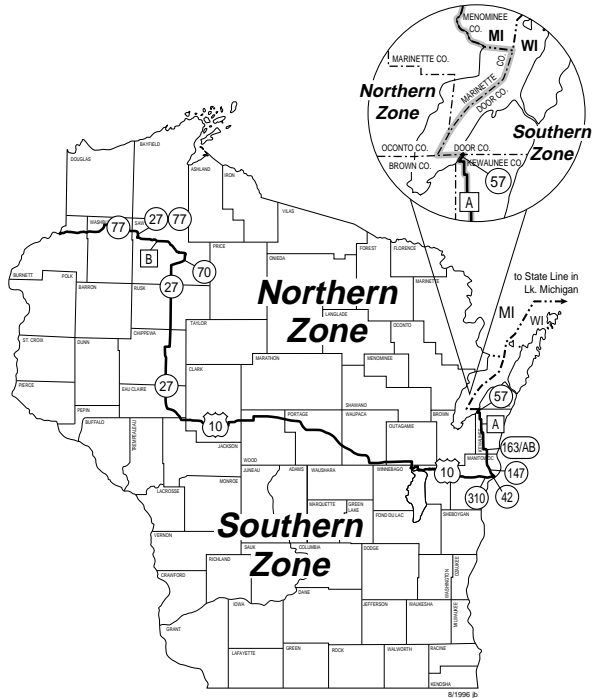
1998 Migratory Game Bird Seasons (see detailed map p. 16)

Normal shooting hours (page 31) apply except on October 3 when hunting begins at noon.

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Mergansers	Same as wild ducks, Daily bag may not include more than 1 hooded merganser.			5	10
Coot and Gallinule	Same as wild ducks.			5	10
Sora and Virginia Rails	Same as wild ducks.			25	25
Snipe	Same as wild ducks.			8	16
Woodcock	September 19 through November 2.			3	6

Falconry hunters see page 29 for season dates and bag limits.

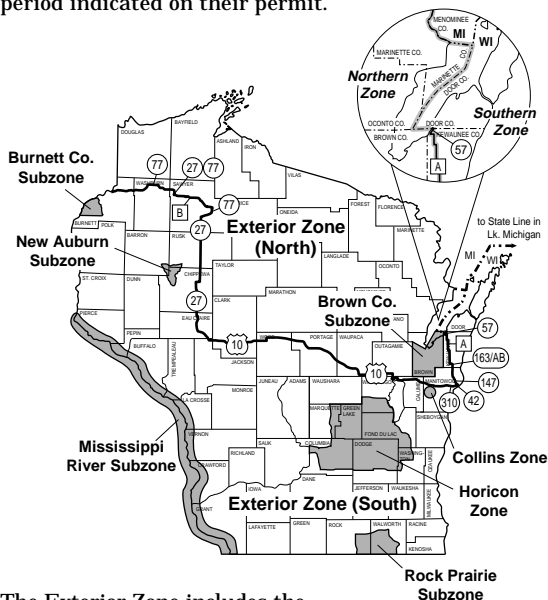
1998 Migratory Game Bird Hunting Zones



Goose Hunting

Canada Goose Management Zones and Subzones

The state is divided into three management zones: Horicon; Collins; and Exterior. To hunt Canada geese in Wisconsin everyone must possess a Canada goose hunting permit which restricts them to one zone. Permits can be obtained by submitting a department application. In 1999, the application deadline for the Horicon and Collins zones will be August 20. Applicants for the Exterior Zone may apply for a permit until the close of the Exterior Zone Canada goose season. Hunters may hunt in only one zone and in the time period indicated on their permit.



The Exterior Zone includes the following subzones: Brown County, Burnett County, Mississippi River, New Auburn, and Rock Prairie. Only persons having Exterior Zone permits are allowed to hunt Canada geese in these subzones.

Permits and tags are not transferable, cannot be reused, altered, or defaced and are only valid for the zone and time period specified on the permit.

Canada Goose Tagging Requirement

Collins and Horicon Zones

When a Canada goose is killed and *before it is carried by hand or transported in any manner by any person*, the hunter who killed the goose must:

- Validate the carcass tag by tearing or cutting out notches on the carcass tag. This designates the month, day and time of kill. Failure to follow this validation procedure invalidates the carcass tag.
- Completely attach the tag (utilizing its own adhesive) to the neck of the goose.

Canada Goose Transportation Restrictions

Collins and Horicon Zones

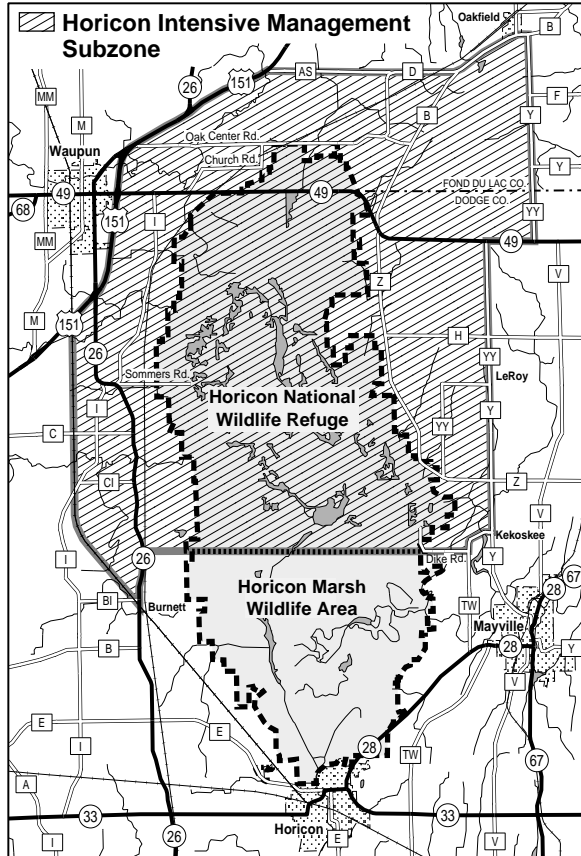
- You may only transport the goose in a motor vehicle in such a manner that the tag attached to the goose cannot be handled by any occupant of the vehicle.
- You must keep the tag attached to the goose until it reaches your home.

Special Horicon Zone Restriction

You may not hunt waterfowl from any road or railroad including their respective rights-of-way. *Note: Railroad rights-of-way are private property and trespass is prohibited unless permission is granted by the owner.*

Horicon Intensive Management Subzone

The area shown on the following map is a specific area located *within* the Horicon Zone. This separate area has additional rules of its own (page 21).



Blind Restrictions

Horicon Intensive Management Subzone

*The following rules apply **to the hunting of any species of geese during the regular goose season** on any land in the Horicon Intensive Management Subzone.*

While hunting as described above, you may not:

- Hunt geese, except from blinds, in the Horicon Intensive Management Subzone. Hunters with a Class A disabled hunting permit may hunt outside of, but within 20 feet of a blind.
- Hunt from a blind which is occupied by more than one other hunter (limit of two hunters per blind).
- Hunt from any blind placed within 200 yards of any other hunter-occupied blind.
- Hunt from any blind placed within 100 yards of the boundary of the property on which such blind is located.
- Place any blind within 75 yards of the Horicon Wildlife Refuge.

In this special goose subzone, a blind is any framed enclosure or pit camouflaged to provide concealment. A blind may not be more than 15 feet in its greatest dimension.

Note: Crippled geese may be pursued on foot or by boat (described pages 12-13) with the aid of a dog and shotgun after being shot from your blind, provided you do not enter the Horicon National Wildlife Refuge.

Canada Goose Permit Validation

Exterior Zone

When a Canada goose is killed and *before it is carried by hand or transported in any manner by any person*, the hunter who killed the goose must validate their Canada goose hunting permit. Validation is accomplished by slitting or punching out the mark indicating the date of kill. Failure to follow validation procedure makes the possession of the goose illegal and can result in enforcement action.

Canada Goose Reporting Requirements

Exterior Zone

You must report each harvested Canada goose within 48 hours of the kill by calling 1-800-99-GOOSE (1-800-994-6673) on either touchtone or rotary telephones.

Note: Goose permit holders and other waterfowl hunters may be mailed a special hunting report. This report must be completed and mailed to DNR. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Season and Bag Limit for Geese other than Canada Geese

Snow / blue geese and Ross' goose:

Horicon Zone: Sept. 19 - Oct. 2 and Oct. 3 (noon) - Dec. 31.
Collins Zone: Concurrent with the Canada goose season (See pg. 24).

Exterior Zone including all subzones: Oct. 3 (noon) - Dec. 31.

Other geese and Brant:

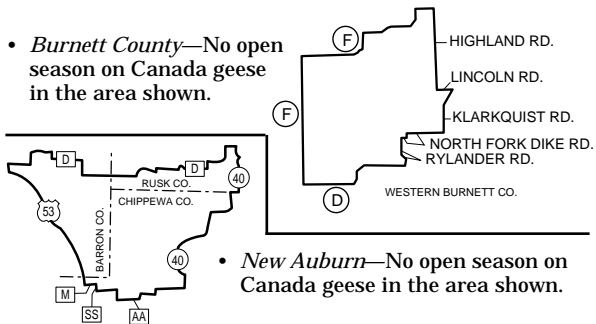
Horicon Zone: Sept. 19 - Oct. 2 and Oct. 3 (noon) - Nov. 27.
Collins Zone: Concurrent with the Canada goose season (See pg. 24).

Exterior Zone including all subzones: Oct. 3 (noon) - Dec. 11.

Bag limit: Fifteen daily to include not more than the legal daily limit of Canada geese, 10 white geese (snow/blue and Ross' goose), 2 white fronted geese and 2 brant. The possession limit is twice the daily bag limit for each species.

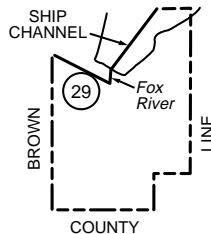
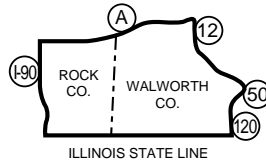
Subzone Seasons (Located within the Exterior Zone)

- *Burnett County*—No open season on Canada geese in the area shown.



- *New Auburn*—No open season on Canada geese in the area shown.

- *Rock Prairie*—Canada goose season:
Nov. 14 - Dec. 6
See page 25 for bag limit restrictions.

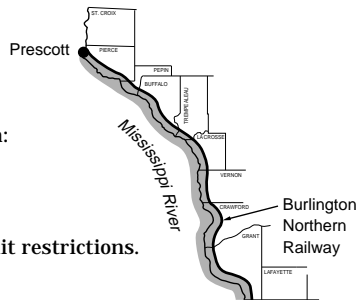


- *Brown County*—Canada goose season:
Nov. 30 - Dec. 20
See page 25 for bag limit restrictions.

- *Mississippi River*—Canada goose season:

Oct. 17 - Dec. 25

See page 25 for bag limit restrictions.



1998 Goose Hunting Seasons

Normal Shooting hours (page 31) apply except on October 3 when goose hunting begins at noon.

Canada Geese	Season Length	Daily Bag Limit	Possession Limit	
Horicon Zone	Period 1	Sept. 19 — Oct. 2	1	Equal to the number of carcass tags received by each hunter
	Period 2	Oct. 3 (noon) — Oct. 9	1	
	Period 3	Oct. 5 — Oct. 30	1	
	Period 4	Oct. 17 — Nov. 13	1	
		Nov. 2 — Dec. 13	1	
Collins Zone	Period 1	Sept. 19 — Oct. 2	1	Equal to the number of carcass tags received by each hunter
	Period 2	Oct. 3 (noon) — Oct. 4	1	
	Period 3	Oct. 5 — Oct. 18	1	
	Period 4	Oct. 19 — Nov. 1	1	
		Nov. 2 — Nov. 20	1	
		Nov. 30 — Dec. 4	1	

Exterior Zone				
North Zone	Oct. 3 (noon) — Oct. 23	1	2	
South Zone	Oct. 24 - Nov. 13	1	2	
Burnett Co. Subzone	Closed	None	None	
New Auburn Subzone	Closed	None	None	
Mississippi River Subzone				
	Oct. 17 — Dec. 25	1	2	
Rock Prairie Subzone	Nov. 14 — Dec. 6	1	2	
Brown Co. Subzone	Nov. 30 — Dec. 20	1	2	
Other Geese and Brant, see page 22				

Emergency Closure—In the Exterior Zone, Canada goose hunting may be closed earlier than dates listed in this pamphlet if harvests exceed the quota. Closing will be done by Zone and Subzone. See “Hunting Curtailed” on page 30.

Note: Horicon Zone landowners and hunters may be eligible for additional tags. See page 26 for details.

Agricultural Damage Permits

Horicon Zone

Starting September 19, landowners or leasees with serious crop damage can apply for goose damage hunting permits. They may use 2 goose tags themselves and issue the remaining tags to Horicon Zone goose hunters. The total number of tags available is limited and based on actual goose damage.

Hunter Eligibility: You must possess a Horicon Zone Canada Goose permit to receive additional Canada Goose tags under the damage program.

How to Participate: Contact the USDA Wildlife Services Office in Waupun at 920-324-4514. A recording will explain if agricultural damage goose tags are available and how to obtain and use them.

Restrictions: You may receive up to 2 tags from each landowner participating in the program. However, you must fill the first tag before receiving the second. It is illegal to possess more than 1 unfilled agricultural goose tag. *Tags are valid for weekday hunting only.* In addition, you must use your regular goose tag(s) first if they are valid during the effective dates of the landowner's permit.

Bag Limit: Geese taken under the damage program are part of the daily bag. You may not exceed the daily bag for Canada Geese shown on page 24.

The Department of Natural Resources provides equal opportunity in its employment, programs, services and functions under an Affirmative Action Plan. Questions? Write to Equal Opportunity Office, Department of the Interior, Washington DC 20240

Health Advisory

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources routinely tests many wildlife species to detect contaminants that may pose risks to your health if you eat contaminated game. Contaminants tested in wildlife include pesticides such as DDT, DDE, and dieldrin; industrial chemicals, such as PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls) or dioxins; and heavy metals, such as mercury, lead, and cadmium.

PCBs primarily pose health risks to human fetuses, infants, and children by slowing growth and development. PCB exposure has also been linked to cancer in adults and other health problems. Because PCBs may remain stored in body fat for years and pose long-term health risks, health professionals recommend that you limit your exposure to PCBs in your diet as much as possible.

PCBs were widely used industrial compounds whose production was banned in 1976. They are long-lived chemicals that may stay buried in river and lake sediments for years. PCBs have been detected in organisms throughout the food chain, including humans.

The state Division of Health has issued the following health advice to protect you from exposure to PCBs in waterfowl taken in these areas.

Location	Health Advice
Lower Fox River from Lake Winnebago at Neenah and Menasha downstream, including Little Lake Butte des Morts, to the northeast city limits of Kaukauna	Remove all skin and visible fat before cooking mallard ducks using these waters. Discard drippings or stuffing because they may retain fat that contains PCBs
Lower Fox River from the DePere Dam to the river's mouth at Green Bay, and lower Green Bay south of a line from Point Sauble west to the west shore of Green Bay	
Sheboygan River from Sheboygan Falls downstream to the river's mouth at Lake Michigan	No one should eat mallard ducks using this water
Sheboygan Harbor	No one should eat lesser scaup (bluebills) using this water
Milwaukee River from Highway 167 (Thiensville) upstream to Lime Kiln Dam at Grafton and Cedar Creek from the Milwaukee River up to Bridge Road in the Village of Cedarburg	No one should eat mallard ducks using these waters
Milwaukee Harbor	No one should eat black ducks, mallards, scaup, and ruddy ducks using this water

Note: The U.S. Food and Drug Administration standard for PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls) in poultry is 3 parts per million calculated on a fat basis.

Don't Shoot a Swan!

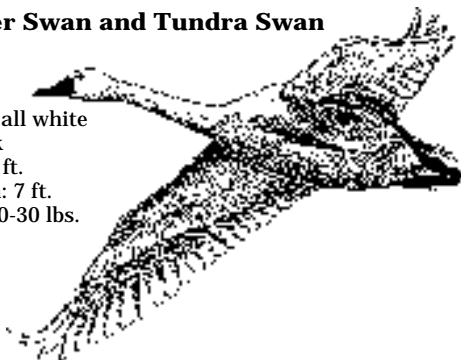
Protected Species

Trumpeter Swans, a state endangered waterfowl species, have been reintroduced in Wisconsin by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Shooting a Trumpeter Swan may cost you up to \$4,000 in fines.

Trumpeter Swan and Tundra Swan

Look for:

- * Plumage: all white
- * Long neck
- * Length: 4 ft.
- * Wingspan: 7 ft.
- * Weight: 20-30 lbs.



Note: Swans in their first year of life appear grey.

Legal Game Species

Snow Goose

Look for:

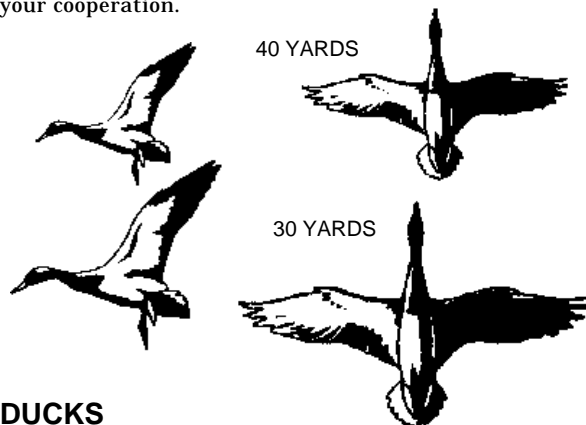
- * Plumage: White, with black wing tips
- * Short neck
- * Length: 1.5 ft.
- * Wingspan: 3.5 ft.



Note: Snow goose range is west of Wisconsin, few snow geese migrate through Wisconsin. Be sure of your target.

Report violations to your local DNR office or by calling the toll-free 1-800-TIP-WDNR (1-800-847-9367).

Prevent Crippling: These pictures represent the *actual size* of ducks and geese at the effective range for steel shot. Test yourself continually during the season by holding your gun barrel up against these pictures. Thanks for your cooperation.



DUCKS

Falconry Seasons

The following special statewide seasons are established for Wisconsin licensed falconers:

Species	Dates	Daily Poss. Bag Limit	
Rails, woodcocks, snipe and gallinules	Sept. 1 - Dec. 16	3*	6*
Ducks mergansers & coots	Sept. 12 - Dec. 8	3*	6*
	Feb. 20 - March 10	3*	6*
Geese	Same as statewide gun season	*	*

* The total daily bag limit for migratory game birds is three, singly or in aggregate, to include not more than the legal limit for Canada Geese (listed on pages 24 and 25) in the zone in which you are hunting. The possession limit for migratory game birds is twice the daily bag.

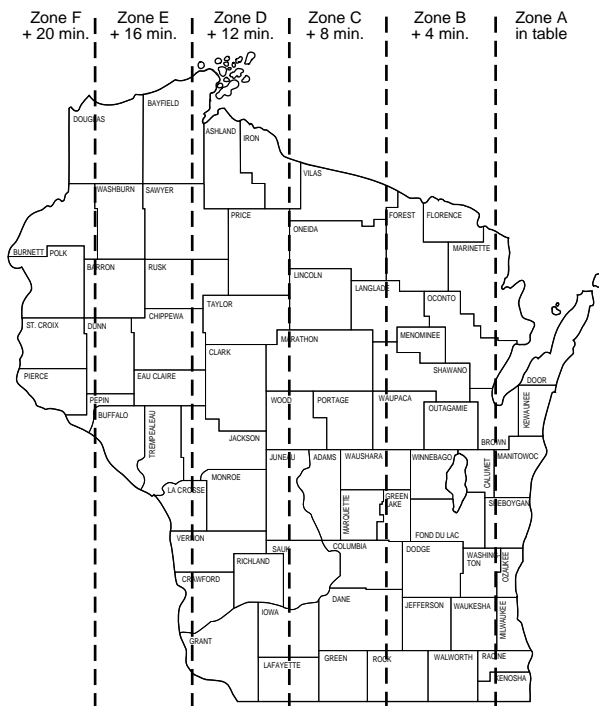
Other Important Information

- **Laws and rules:** This summary of regulations is designed as a service to hunters and is not intended to be a complete digest of all hunting regulations. For specific details, contact the nearest DNR Service Center. Federal regulations relating to migratory game birds are located in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 20.
- **Hunting curtailed:** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service requires Wisconsin to restrict the Canada goose harvest outside the tag zones to a specific number. As a result, hunters are cautioned to expect emergency season closures if harvest trends indicate the quota will be exceeded during this year's hunt.
- **Closed areas and refuges:** Because these areas are so numerous, widely scattered and seasonably variable, accurate location maps cannot be provided in this pamphlet. However, all such areas on state land are posted with signs which describe the type of hunting or trapping restrictions. Hunters should routinely scout their hunting area for any special sign before going afield. In addition, contact with the local Conservation Warden or Wildlife Biologist is encouraged. Dead or crippled game may be retrieved by hand without a firearm or with a firearm which is unloaded and enclosed in a proper carrying case or with the aid of a dog from any closed area or refuge unless posted to prohibit public entry.
- **Bird bands:** Should you obtain a bird band, report it by calling 1-800-327-BAND (1-800-327-2263). To report a band by mail, flatten it out and tape it to a 3x5 card or simply write the number on a 3x5 card. Add the date on which the bird was recovered, the location of recovery, and your name and address. Mail the card to: U.S. Geological Survey B.B.L.; 12100 Beach Forest Rd.; Ste.-4037; Laurel, Maryland 20708-4037. Thank you for your help!
- **Boating:** Be sure you are properly equipped while hunting with the aid of a boat. Be aware of the dangers of hypothermia and overloading. For more information, ask for a boating regulation pamphlet at your local DNR office.
- **Vehicle Restrictions:** On federal waterfowl production areas, motorized vehicles are prohibited. Vehicles include, but are not limited to, snowmobiles, trail bikes, all terrain vehicles and motor boats.

Hunting Hours

- Hunting hours for all migratory game birds are one-half hour before sunrise to sunset. These hours are shown in the table on page 32.
- Six hunting hour zones are established for hunting migratory game birds as shown on the zone map. Actual hunting hours for *Zone A* are shown in the table (see page 32).
- To establish the opening and closing times for any day in another zone, add the minutes shown on the zone map to the time in the *Zone A* table. (See page 32)

Zone Map



Zone A Table

	September DST	October	November	December
Day	A.M.—P.M.	A.M.—P.M.	A.M.—P.M.	A.M.—P.M.
1	5:46-7:27	6:18-6:33	5:56-4:44	6:33-4:18
2	5:47-7:25	6:20-6:32	5:57-4:43	6:34-4:18
3	5:48-7:23	6:21-6:30*	5:58-4:42	6:35-4:18
4	5:49-7:22	6:22-6:28	5:59-4:40	6:36-4:18
5	5:50-7:20	6:23-6:26	6:01-4:39	6:37-4:17
6	5:51-7:18	6:24-6:25	6:02-4:38	6:38-4:17
7	5:52-7:16	6:25-6:23	6:03-4:37	6:39-4:17
8	5:53-7:15	6:26-6:21	6:05-4:36	6:40-4:17
9	5:54-7:13	6:28-6:20	6:06-4:35	6:41-4:17
10	5:55-7:11	6:29-6:18	6:07-4:33	6:42-4:17
11	5:56-7:09	6:30-6:16	6:08-4:32	6:42-4:17
12	5:58-7:08	6:31-6:15	6:10-4:31	6:43-4:17
13	5:59-7:06	6:32-6:13	6:11-4:30	6:44-4:17
14	6:00-7:04	6:33-6:11	6:12-4:29	6:45-4:18
15	6:01-7:02	6:35-6:10	6:14-4:28	6:46-4:18
16	6:02-7:00	6:36-6:08	6:15-4:28	6:46-4:18
17	6:03-6:59	6:37-6:06	6:16-4:27	6:47-4:18
18	6:04-6:57	6:38-6:05	6:17-4:26	6:48-4:19
19	6:05-6:55	6:39-6:03	6:19-4:25	6:48-4:19
20	6:06-6:53	6:41-6:02	6:20-4:24	6:49-4:19
21	6:07-6:51	6:42-6:00	6:21-4:24	6:49-4:20
22	6:08-6:50	6:43-5:58	6:22-4:23	6:50-4:20
23	6:10-6:48	6:44-5:57	6:23-4:22	6:50-4:21
24	6:11-6:46	6:46-5:55	6:25-4:22	6:51-4:22
		**CST		
25	6:12-6:44	5:47-4:54	6:26-4:21	6:51-4:22
26	6:13-6:42	5:48-4:53	6:27-4:20	6:52-4:23
27	6:14-6:41	5:49-4:51	6:28-4:20	6:52-4:24
28	6:15-6:39	5:51-4:50	6:29-4:19	6:52-4:24
29	6:16-6:37	5:52-4:48	6:30-4:19	6:52-4:25
30	6:17-6:35	5:53-4:47	6:32-4:19	6:53-4:26
31		5:54-4:46		6:53-4:27

* Migratory game bird hunting hours begin at noon on Oct.3 except for woodcock.

** Central Standard Time (CST) starts Oct. 25.

GP 8/98